

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

1 to 16. (canceled)

17. (currently amended) A method of treating cancer comprising co-administration of interleukin 18 and a recombinant herpes simplex virus that selectively replicates in cancer cells, wherein said interleukin 18 is administered as a protein and wherein the γ 34.5 gene, the ICP6 gene and the ICP47 gene of the recombinant herpes simplex virus have been deleted or inactivated.

18. (canceled)

19. (currently amended) The method according to claim 17 ~~or 18~~, wherein the interleukin 18 is administered systemically.

20. (previously presented) The method according to claim 19, further comprising local administration of interleukin 12 at a tumor tissue.

21. (previously presented) The method according to claim 19, further comprising local administration at a tumor tissue of a recombinant herpes simplex virus that selectively replicates in cancer cells, wherein a gene coding for interleukin 12 has been inserted expressively in the genomic DNA of the recombinant herpes simplex virus.

22. (currently amended) The method according to claim 17 ~~or 18~~, wherein the recombinant herpes simplex virus is injected into a tumor tissue.

23. (currently amended) The method according to claim 17 ~~22~~, wherein the cancer is located separately from the tumor tissue injected with the herpes simplex virus.

24. (currently amended) A method according to claim 17 or 19 ~~18~~, wherein said interleukin 18 is administered in an amount that is ineffective for interleukin 18 alone to treat cancer ~~the γ 34.5 gene and ICP6 gene of the recombinant herpes simplex virus have been deleted or inactivated.~~

25. (currently amended) A method according to claim 17 or 19 ~~24~~, wherein said interleukin 18 is administered at a dose sufficiently low to avoid toxicity ~~the ICP47 gene of the recombinant herpes simplex virus has also been deleted or inactivated.~~

26. (currently amended) A method of treating cancer, comprising administering a recombinant herpes simplex virus that selectively replicates in cancer cells into a tumor tissue and systemically administering interleukin 18 as a protein, wherein the γ 34.5 gene ~~and~~, the ICP6 gene and the ICP47 gene of the recombinant herpes simplex virus have been deleted or inactivated, and a gene coding for interleukin 12 has been inserted expressively in the genomic DNA of the recombinant herpes simplex virus.

27. (canceled)

28. (new) A method according to claim 26, wherein said interleukin 18 is administered in an amount that is ineffective for interleukin 18 alone to treat cancer.

29. (new) A method according to claim 26, wherein said interleukin 18 is administered at a dose sufficiently low to avoid toxicity.

30. (new) A method according to claims 17 or 26, wherein interleukin-18 is administered by injection in amount of 0.1 to 1000 μ g/kg.